

the church are at stake; it is an auspicious moment, and yet not auspicious. What will be the result of next Monday's work? If it will be the liquidation of the debt of Ashland University, then Monday, March 21, 1898, will become a historic day in the Brethren church, if not then it will be a day of shame to us for generations to come. We appeal to the whole brotherhood in the name of Christ to make it a matter of prayer. Let the soul's cry go up to the throne of God in behalf of our institution. Let the coming Sabbath, March 20, be a day of prayer on the part of every member of the Brethren church, and let it be earnest prayer, a mighty wrestling with the Lord.

If your apportionment has not yet been paid, write Brother Keim at once at Ashland, and promise him the amount or part of it, at some future specified time. If ever the cause of the Brethren church lay close to your heart, let it be closer now; if ever the cause was dear to you, let it be dearer now. The one great need, the *greatest* need, the "dire necessity," as Brother Cassel puts it, *is an educational institution for the training of young men and women for the work of the Christian ministry.* Shall we have it? Let that question be answered next Monday, in the fear, and as in the very presence of God, to whom we must give account.

Doing Good and Being Good

There is a great deal of energy wasted in trying to *do* good without *being* good. Back of all our doing there must be character as the one thing which gives value and influence to our words and acts. Acting is a very poor substitute for reality. Behind every word we speak and every deed we perform there must be the *life* which gives force to the word and to the deed of which they are but the result. The law of the gospel is not *do* and *live* as it was said of old, but *live* and *do*. There must be life first, then action. To do the work of a Christian without being a Christian, if such a thing be possible, is at best a very tedious task, a mere drudgery. Christian service with no life back of it to prompt such service must be wearisome indeed. Here is the secret of a loving, joyous service. It is the spirit-filled life behind it that projects itself into such service as naturally as a plant in a dark cellar inclines to the light. To one who is born again, and has received the gift of the Holy Spirit, service is no longer a burden, it is a joy, a delight, a real pleasure. Doing service for the Master, to one who has the life of the Master, is as natural as eating to a hungry man. There is power in goodness, in reality, in life. Without these all our saying and doing, our words and deeds, are but as rain drops upon a marble slab, they make very little, if any impression. The secret of doing good is *being* good; the secret of living right, living as a Christian ought to live, is in having life, the life of him whom we serve.

Personal Mention

Sister Gibbons has been visiting and preaching in Kansas.

Brother McFaden continues work in the city with good success.

And this time it is Brother Rench. Accept congratulations, brother.

That is quite an interesting letter Sister Detwiler writes from Washington City.

Another has heard the call of Brother Holsinger and responded. Brother Spanogle this time.

Rev. M. L. Young, Ph. D., Meyersdale, Pa., gave us a short but very pleasant call last Friday.

Brother Wirick has been holding forth the word with power and God has richly blest his efforts in the conversion of souls.

We invite a careful reading of Brother Cassel's article in this issue, especially that part of it relating to our educational interests.

The revival in Brother Koontz's congregation keeps up seven days in the week, and fifty-two weeks in the year. He reports seven accessions.

Brother J. M. Tombaugh begins work at Hagerstown, Md., as pastor, April 1. We have not yet learned who succeeds him at Fairview, Miamisburg, and Bear Creek.

April 1, Brother Knepper takes charge of the Myersdale congregation, while from that date Brother Mackey gives his whole time to the congregation at Salisbury.

The brethren of Nappanee, Indiana, have reason for rejoicing in the Lord. The revival services conducted by the pastor, Brother Hazlett, and Brother Ditch, resulted in twenty-one accessions.

A letter from Brother Keifer brings us the sad news of the very sudden death of Sister Miller, wife of brother D. J. Miller, of the Fair Haven church, Lattasburg, Ohio. Particulars will appear later. Brother Miller has our sympathy in the loss of his dear companion. Sister Miller was a very faithful member of the Brethren church, a most devoted Christian, and her death is a loss to the home, the church and the community.

The Small Act

It is the bubbling stream which flows gently, the little rivulet which runs night and day by the farmhouse that is useful, rather than the swollen flood or warring cataract. Niagara excites our wonder, and we stand amazed at the powerful greatness of God there, as he pours it forth from the hollow of his hand. But one Niagara is enough for the continent of the world; but the same world requires thousands and tens of thousands of silver fountains and gently flowing rivulets which water every farm and garden, and shall flow on every day and night with their gentle, quiet beauty. So with the acts of our lives. It is not by great deeds, like those of martyrs, good is to be done, but by the daily and quiet virtue of life.—*Onward.*

What a Tract Did

A lady was filling a mission-box for India, when a child brought her a tract, and put it in the box. The tract was afterwards given to a Burman chief, and it led him to Christ. The chief told the story of his new God and great happiness to his friends. They also were led to believe and cast away their idols. A church was built in the neighborhood, and a missionary sent for. Fifteen hundred converted from heathenism was the result of the little seed.—*Selected.*

Important Announcement

First, here is something every pastor in the church out to have. It is "The Pastor's Pocket Record," by Sylvanus Stall, a new and revised edition of that which has been for the past 15 years the Standard Record for the use of ministers. Printed headings and special ruled, affording space for recording of 84 church officers, 619 members, and 5,679 pastoral calls directly opposite; 42 communion seasons, 138 baptisms, 84 marriages, 105 funerals, 173 sermons, 63 addresses, 168 new members, besides 10 other departments. New edition (just out,) revised and corrected by the author to date. New side stamp in gold. Exquisitely bound in flexible Morocco (pocket-book style) for the pocket. The price of the book is 75 cents prepaid. To any pastor who will send us *two* new subscribers, or *five* renewal subscribers, accompanied by the cash, we will send the book free prepaid. This is a most liberal offer.

Again, if you have never read "The New Acts of the Apostles," by Arthur T. Pierson, then you have missed an enthusiasm and an inspiration which you cannot afford to miss. The book should be in the home of every Christian. The price is \$1.50. For *four* new subscribers or for *ten* renewal subscribers accompanied by the cash we will send this book free prepaid. These are standard books and of permanent value, and you have an opportunity to get them free.

Again, we offer to our readers what has never been offered to them before: "The People's Bible History," prepared by the great thinkers, renowned scholars, wise writers and investigators of the nineteenth century. Among the authors of the book are William E. Gladstone, Canon Farrar, W. C. Wilkinson, A. H. Sayce and fifteen others of equal ability and authority. It is illustrated by artists, engravers whose names typify the highest standard of human genius and achievement. The manuscript for this work cost more than \$25,000. It is the most valuable contribution to the literature of the world since the production of the Bible itself. This magnificent work is bound in one volume of nearly 1,000 pages, in half levant, printed on good paper. *It is a new book,* and is designed to have an immense sale. The price is \$5.00. To any one sending us *eight* new subscribers or *twenty* renewals, the book will be sent free prepaid. It is understood that *four* new subscribers and *ten* renewals will also secure the book free. Now friends here is an opportunity to secure the most valuable book of the day. Put your subs together and secure it as a present for your pastor. Do not forget that to secure these premiums cash must accompany the order. Further announcement next week.